

In the Claims

1-7. (Canceled).

8. (Currently amended) A polygalacturonide food composition ~~comprising a food and a health promoting agent, wherein the health promoting agent consists essentially of polygalacturonides obtained derived from pectin that contains ester groups, produced by the process comprising the following steps of:~~

(a) providing a pectinous plant material containing pectin that contains ester groups;

~~a)~~ (b) subjecting said pectinous plant material to a pectin extraction in an aqueous medium to obtain a suspension comprising of a liquid phase comprising dissolved pectin and solids from the plant material;

~~b)~~ (c) removing the solids from the suspension to obtain a liquid material;

~~c)~~ (d) precipitating ~~the~~ said pectin from ~~the~~ said liquid material to obtain a pectin precipitate and separating said pectin precipitate from the remainder of said liquid material;

~~d)~~ (e) dissolving ~~the~~ said pectin precipitate in an aqueous medium and cleaving ~~the~~ said dissolved pectin with purified endo-polygalacturonase to obtain polygalacturonides; and thereafter

~~e)~~ (f) ~~separating~~ removing at least most of the water from the product obtained in ~~step d)~~ (e) to recover a polygalacturonide ~~preparation~~ food composition, ~~without using an additional separation step and without hydrolyzing any~~ wherein said ester groups ~~that are present in~~ said pectin are not hydrolyzed.

9. (Currently amended) The food composition according to claim 8, ~~wherein the food is~~ which further comprises a beverage.

10. (Currently amended) The food composition according to claim 8, ~~wherein the food is~~ which further comprises baby food.

11. (Currently amended) The food composition according to claim 8, ~~wherein the food is~~ which further comprises canned food.

12. (Currently amended) The food composition according to claim 9, ~~wherein the polygalacturonides improve the~~ which has improved taste ~~of the food~~.

13. (New) The food composition according to claim 10, which has improved taste.

14. (New) The food composition according to claim 11, which has improved taste.

15. (New) A polygalacturonide food composition which comprises pectin that contains ester groups, cleaved with purified endo-polygalacturonase such that only bonds in non-esterified galacturonic acid monomer units are cleaved and ester groups in said pectin are not hydrolyzed.